

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00347 101026Z

17

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 BIB-01 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 ERDE-00 /083 W

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1108

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0347

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES OF
JULY 8, 1975

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE JULY 8 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE
VIENNA TALKS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE BELGIAN REP,
UK REP, AND US REP, AND THE EAST BY SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND
SMIRNOVSKY, GDR REP OESER, AND CZECHOSLOVAK REP LAHODA. BY
AGREEMENT, AN EXPERT FROM EACH OF THE PARTICIPATING DELEGATIONS
WAS PRESENT.

2. THE SESSION, A LONG ONE, WAS DEVOTED SOLELY TO THE QUESTION
OF FORCE DEFINITIONS. AS IN THE PREVIOUS SESSION, KHLESTOV
WAS IN PRACTICE THE SOLE SPOKESMAN ON THE EASTERN SIDE,
OFTEN AFTER CONFERRING WITH SOVIET MILITARY ADVISER KAPITONOV.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00347 101026Z

3. AFTER INITIAL DISCUSSION, THERE SEEMED TO BE GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE THAT ANY AGREED DEFINITION SHOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE AND INCLUDE ALL FORCES IN THE AREA APART FROM THE NAVY. IT WAS AGREED THAT, FOR THE WEST, THIS MEANT PERSONNEL ONLY, WHEREAS FOR THE EAST, IT MEANT BOTH PERSONNEL AND ARMAMENTS. THERE SEEMED TO BE GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT ANY COMPREHENSIVE DEFINITION SHOULD ALSO CONTAIN A DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN THE MILITARY PERSONNEL FALLING UNDER THE SCOPE OF POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS AND THOSE NOT UNDER THE SCOPE OF AGREEMENTS. WESTERN REPS SAID THAT THIS DIVIDING LINE SHOULD DISTINGUISH ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM RESERVISTS, CIVILIANS AND ALSO FROM THE PERSONNEL OF OTHER UNIFORMED ORGANIZATIONS EQUIPPED WITH WEAPONS. KHESTOV AGREED THAT THE DEFINITION SHOULD EXCLUDE SUCH UNIFORMED GROUPS AS BORDER GUARDS AND INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES, BUT POSTPONED AN ANSWER AS TO THE EXCLUSION OF CIVILIANS AND RESERVISTS.

4. THERE SEEMED TO BE GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT ALL ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL IN THE AREA (EASTERN VERSION, ALL "FORCES" IN THE AREA) SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO GROUND FORCES OR TO AIR FORCES, WITHOUT PREJUDICE AS TO THE METHOD OF DOING THIS, WHETHER ACCORDING TO THE WESTERN DEFINITION OR THE EASTERN DEFINITION.

5. KHESTOV MADE REPEATED EFFORTS TO GAIN ALLIED AGREEMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT ALL MILITARY FORCES IN THE AREA PERFORMING THE SAME FUNCTION OR HAVING THE SAME MISSION WOULD BE ASSIGNED TOGETHER EITHER TO GROUND FORCES OR TO AIR FORCES. ALLIED REPS SAID THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO HAVE TIME TO THOROUGHLY EXPLORE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS APPROACH BEFORE TAKING ANY POSITION TOWARDS IT. THEIR ANSWER INDICATED THAT A REPLY WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING DURING THIS ROUND.

6. KHESTOV ANSWERED A NUMBER OF WESTERN QUESTIONS AS TO HOW THE EAST HAD CARRIED OUT THIS PRINCIPLE OF ASSIGNING THE SAME FORCES ON BOTH SIDES EITHER TO GROUND OR AIR FORCES IN THE PROPOSED EASTERN DEFINITION. HE INDICATED THAT THE EAST HAD PLACED ALL "ARMY AVIATION" PERSONNEL IN THE GROUND FORCES, ALL TERRITORIAL AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL IN THE AIR FORCES AND ALL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE PERSONNEL IN THE GROUND FORCES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00347 101026Z

7. KHESTOV RAISED THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE DEFINITION ISSUE DURING THE PRESENT ROUND, SCHEDULED TO END ON JULY 18. ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES SAID THEY HAD NO REPEAT NO FURTHER FUNDAMENTAL POINTS TO DEVELOP ON THIS ISSUE, BUT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO DEVOTING PART OF THE INFORMAL SESSION PLANNED FOR JULY 15 TO THIS TOPIC IF THE EAST HAD SOMETHING FURTHER TO ADD ON IT. THIS ISSUE WAS LEFT OPEN. END SUMMARY.

REMAINDER OF REPORT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.RESOR

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